

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system for managing schedule data representing a common schedule including a plurality of appointments according to which a plurality of competitors and a manager who manages the competitors cooperate with each other to perform respective cooperative actions, the system comprising:

a plurality of competitor-side monitor devices which are operable by the plurality of competitors, respectively, to propose respective appointments with the manager, and each of which monitors the schedule data;

a manager-side monitor device which is connected to said each of the competitor-side monitor devices via a communication line, which monitors the respective appointments proposed by the competitors through the respective competitor-side monitor devices, and which is operable by the manager to accept each one of the appointments proposed by the competitors;

a memory device which stores, as the schedule data, a first appointment proposed by a first one of the competitors through a first one of the competitor-side monitor devices, together with first identification data identifying the first competitor and including at least a name of the first competitor, and stores, as the schedule data, a second appointment proposed by a second one of the competitors through a second one of the competitor-side monitor devices, together with second identification data identifying the second competitor and including at least a name of the second competitor; and

a schedule-data modifying means for modifying the schedule data into first modified schedule data which is to be monitored by the first competitor-side monitor device and which represents a first modified common schedule which does not include the name of the second competitor, and modifying the schedule data into second modified schedule data which is to be monitored by the second competitor-side monitor device and which represents a second modified common schedule which does not include the name of the first competitor.

2. A system according to claim 1, wherein the schedule-data modifying means comprises means for modifying the schedule data into the first modified schedule data representing the first modified common schedule which does not include the name of the second competitor and at least one of a kind of the cooperative action of the second competitor and the manager, an aim of the cooperative action, and a place where the cooperative action is performed by the second competitor and the manager, and modifying the schedule data into the second modified schedule data representing the second modified common schedule which does not include the name of the first competitor and at least one of a kind of the cooperative action of the first competitor and the manager, an aim of the cooperative action, and a place where the cooperative action is performed by the first competitor and the manager.

3. A system according to claim 1, further

comprising an altering means for altering, when the manager operates the manager-side monitor device to accept the first appointment proposed by the first competitor, the schedule data including the first appointment proposed by the first competitor, to the altered schedule data including the first appointment accepted by the manager, and altering, when the manager operates the manager-side monitor device to accept the second appointment proposed by the second competitor, the schedule data including the second appointment proposed by the second competitor, to the altered schedule data including the second appointment accepted by the manager.

4. A system according to claim 3, wherein the manager-side monitor device comprises a display device which displays, based on the schedule data, the common schedule including at least one of the first appointment proposed by the first competitor and the first appointment accepted by the manager, the name of the first competitor, at least one of the second appointment proposed by the second competitor and the second appointment accepted by the manager, and the name of the second competitor; the first competitor-side monitor device comprises a display device which displays, based on the first modified schedule data, the common schedule including a date and a time of at least one of the second appointment proposed by the second competitor and the second appointment accepted by the manager; and the second competitor-side monitor device comprises a display device which displays, based on the second

modified schedule data, the common schedule including a date and a time of at least one of the first appointment proposed by the first competitor and the first appointment accepted by the manager.

5. A system according to claim 1, wherein the manager-side monitor device comprises a display device which displays, based on the schedule data, the common schedule including a date and a time of the first appointment proposed by the first competitor and the name of the first competitor, and a date and a time of the second appointment proposed by the second competitor and the name of the second competitor; the first competitor-side monitor device comprises a display device which displays, based on the first modified schedule data, the common schedule including a date and a time of the first appointment proposed by the first competitor and the name of the first competitor, and a date and a time of the second appointment proposed by the second competitor; and the second competitor-side monitor device comprises a display device which displays, based on the second modified schedule data, the common schedule including a date and a time of the second appointment proposed by the second competitor and the name of the second competitor, and a date and a time of the first appointment proposed by the first competitor.

6. A system according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the competitor-side monitor devices and the

manager-side monitor device comprises a personal computer.

7. A system according to claim 1, wherein the competitor-side monitor devices and the manager-side monitor device are connected to one another via the communication line comprising a telephone network.

8. A medium for recording a program such that the program is readable by a manager-side computer to manage schedule data representing a common schedule including a plurality of appointments according to which a plurality of competitors and a manager who manages the competitors cooperate with each other to perform respective cooperative actions, the program comprising the steps of

receiving, from a plurality of competitor-side computers to each of which the manager-side computer is connected via a communication line, respective appointments proposed by the plurality of competitors,

allowing the manager to accept each one of the appointments proposed by the competitors,

storing, as the schedule data, a first appointment proposed by a first one of the competitors through a first one of the competitor-side computers, together with first identification data identifying the first competitor, and a second appointment proposed by a second one of the competitors through a second one of the competitor-side computers, together with second identification data identifying the second competitor,

modifying the schedule data into first modified schedule data which is to be monitored by the first competitor-side computer and which does not include the second identification data, and into second modified schedule data which is to be monitored by the second competitor-side computer and which does not include the first identification data, and

transmitting the first modified schedule data to the first competitor-side computer, and transmitting the second modified schedule data to the second competitor-side computer.